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B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

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SOURCE: KODAKA.022005

DRAFTED BY: SA/PAB:PSDHILLON 01PAKPOL\T-6-S-SATTAR-LUNCH -- 06/21/01

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TAGS: OVIP, PREL, KDEM, MCAF, PTER, PHUM, ECON, PK, IN, AF

SUBJECT: THE SECRETARY'S LUNCH WITH PAKISTANI FOREIGN

MINISTER ABDUL SATTAR

REF: STATE 74066

(U) CLASSIFIED BY THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY, CHRISTINA B.

ROCCA,, BUREAU OF SOUTH ASIAN AFFAIRS, REASONS 1.5 (B) AND

(D)

1. (U) JUNE 19, 12:00 NOON, THE SECRETARY'S DINING ROOM.

2. (U) PARTICIPANTS:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN S BLODGETT

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

DECLASSIFY AFTER: 19 JUN 2011

DATE/CASE ID: 23 OCT 2006 200602966

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UNITED STATES

THE SECRETARY
U/S LARSON
U/S BOLTON
U/S DOBRIANSKY
A/S CHRISTINA ROCCA
A/S RICHARD BOUCHER

S/P DIRECTOR RICHARD HAASS
DAS ALAN EASTHAM
NSC SENIOR DIRECTOR TORKEL PATTERSON
S-STAFF CRAIG KELLY
SA/PAB PUSHPINDER DHILLON (NOTETAKER)

PAKISTAN

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FOREIGN MINISTER SATTAR
AMBASSADOR MALEEHA LODHI
RIAZ M KHAN, MFA ADDITIONAL SECRETARY
AZIZ A KHAN, MFA ADDITIONAL SECRETARY
MAJOR GENERAL FAIZ JILANI, ISI OPERATIONS
MAJOR GENERAL AHMED KIDWAI, NATIONAL COMMAND AUTHORITY
ZAMIR AKRAM, DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION
BRIGADIER SYED M. MUJTABA, DEFENSE ATTACHE
MASOOD KHAN, POLITICAL COUNSELOR
SYED Z GARDEZI, MFA DIRECTOR

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[REDACTED]

4. (C) THE SECRETARY EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE TALIBAN AND ITS THREAT TO REGIONAL STABILITY AS IT TRIES TO SPREAD ITS IDEOLOGY. SATTAR, AZIZ KHAN, AND GENERAL JILANI ENCOURAGED ENGAGEMENT WITH THE TALIBAN RATHER THAN ISOLATION. THEY PAINTED THE TALIBAN LEADERSHIP AS YOUNG, UNEDUCATED MEN, WHOSE EXPERIENCES ARE LIMITED TO STRUGGLE AND WAR, AND WHO WOULD MODERATE THEIR VIEWS ONCE THEY GAIN EXPOSURE TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD. SATTAR CHARACTERIZED THE GOP-TALIBAN AS "REASONABLE," BUT ONE WITH ITS OWN PROBLEMS -- SMUGGLING, REFUGEES, AND FUGITIVES. HE CLAIMED THAT THE GOP HAD ONLY LIMITED INFLUENCE WITH THE TALIBAN, WHICH LISTENS BUT ACTS IN ITS OWN INTERESTS.

[REDACTED]

END SUMMARY.

SANCTIONS

5. (C) CONCLUDING A CONVERSATION THAT HAD BEGUN BEFORE LUNCH, THE SECRETARY TOLD SATTAR THE SANCTIONS WERE UNDER REVIEW, AND WE WOULD SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE. THE SECRETARY EXPLAINED THAT SANCTIONS OFTEN ARE A SUBSTITUTE FOR EVEN MORE PUNITIVE ACTIONS. MEANWHILE, AS WE REVIEW SANCTIONS, HE SAID, IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE GOP TO DO ITS PART BY SHOWING PROGRESS ON ISSUES OF CONCERN TO US, THUS "GIVING US AMMO" TO DEAL WITH THE ISSUE. HE NOTED THAT HE WAS A GREAT BELIEVER IN MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAMS SUCH AS

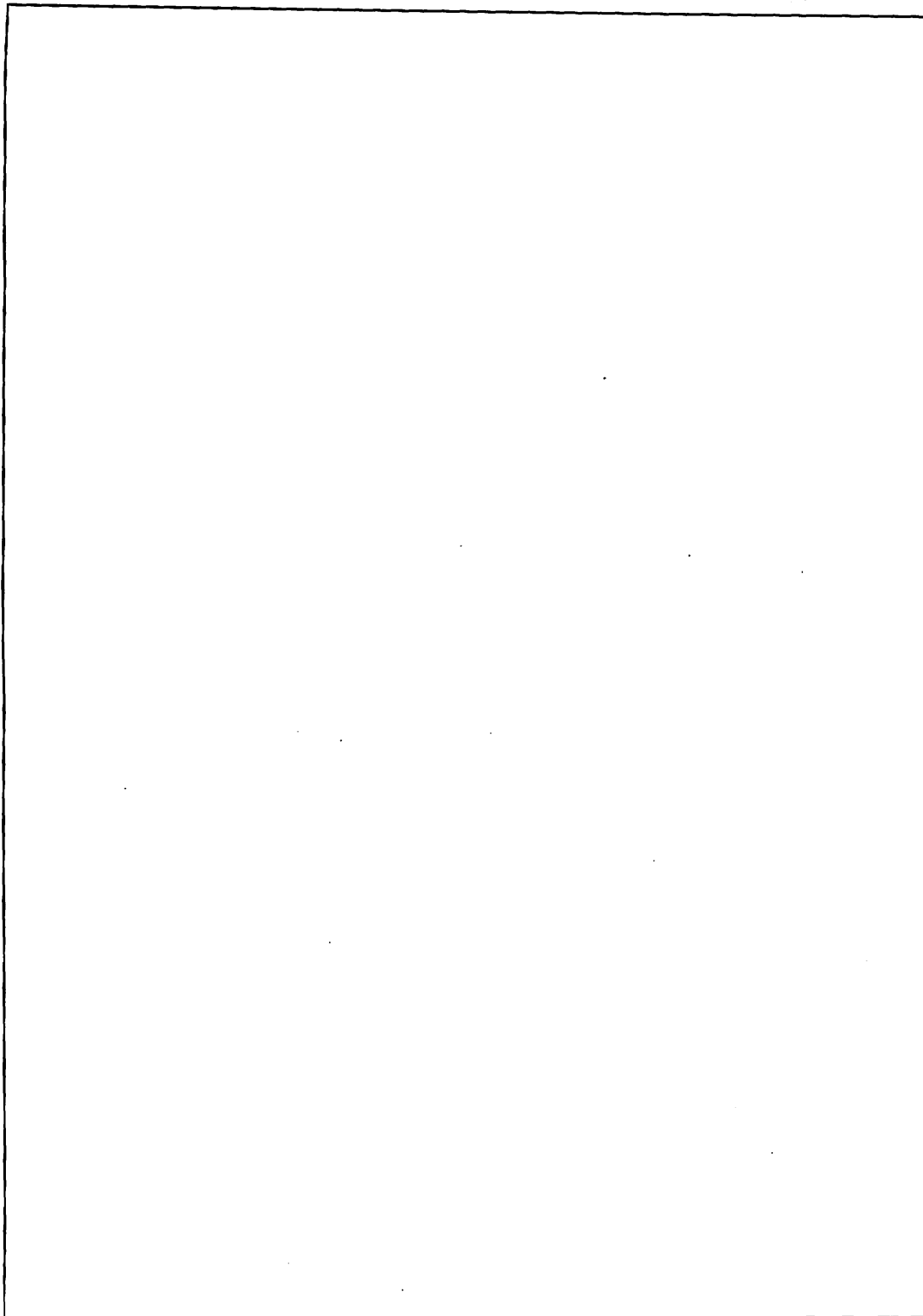
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IMET -- NOW PROHIBITED BY SANCTIONS -- WHICH ALLOW BOTH
SIDES TO LEARN MUCH FROM EACH OTHER.

[REDACTED]

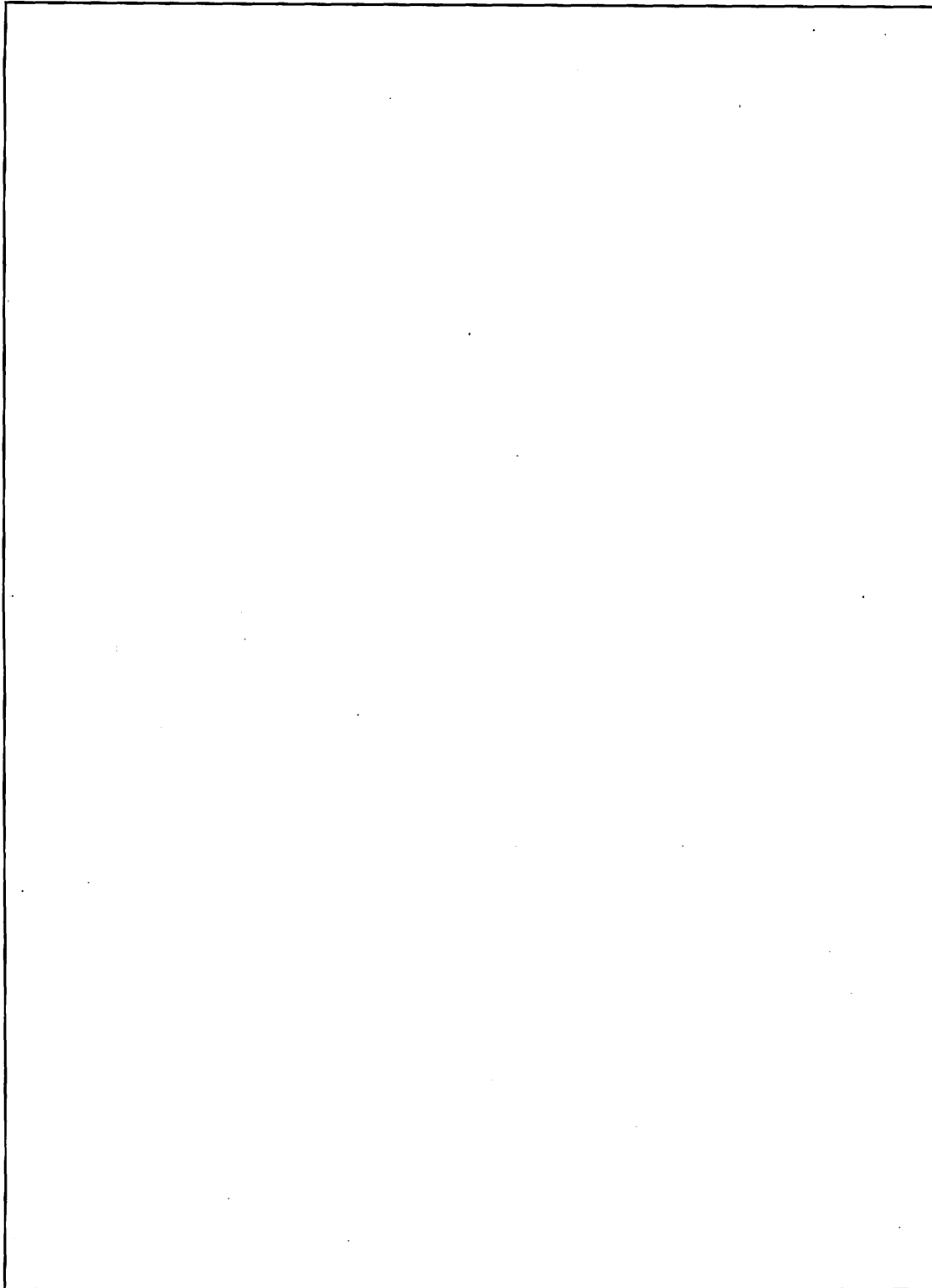
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TALIBAN

12. (C) THE SECRETARY NOTED THAT THE UNITED STATES AND PAKISTAN HAVE DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES ABOUT THE TALIBAN. WE, ALONG WITH OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE REGION, VIEW THE TALIBAN AS A SOURCE OF CONCERN FOR REGIONAL STABILITY AS IT ATTEMPTS TO SPREAD ITS VALUES AND IDEOLOGY TO ITS NEIGHBORS. IN THIS CONTEXT, HE ASKED SATTAR TO COMMENT ON THE GOP'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE TALIBAN, AND ON HOW MUCH INFLUENCE THE GOP HAD WITH THE TALIBAN.

15. (C) SATTAR URGED ENGAGEMENT WITH THE TALIBAN BECAUSE, ON BALANCE, THE ADVANTAGE OF ENGAGEMENT EXCEEDS THE DISADVANTAGES OF CONFRONTATION OR ISOLATION.

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16. (C) AZIZ KHAN AND GENERAL JILANI SUGGESTED THAT THE
TALIBAN SHOULD BE HANDLED WITH PATIENCE. [REDACTED]

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